

MAR 08 2019

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE TO DEVELOP A
SUSTAINABLE FOOD SECURITY STRATEGIC PLAN AND PREPARE AN
ANNUAL REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE.

1 WHEREAS, food security, as defined by the United Nations'
2 Committee on World Food Security, means that all people, at all
3 times, have physical, social, and economic access to sufficient,
4 safe, and nutritious food that meets their food preferences and
5 dietary needs for an active and healthy life; and
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7 WHEREAS, Hawaii annually spends approximately
8 \$3,000,000,000 on importing eighty-five to ninety percent of its
9 food; and
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11 WHEREAS, increasing local food production is essential for
12 the future health and vitality of the State; and
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14 WHEREAS, the Governor has established the goal of doubling
15 local food production by 2020; and
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17 WHEREAS, the State has many natural resources and vast
18 agricultural lands that lend themselves to increasing local food
19 production; and
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21 WHEREAS, despite the State's natural resources and goals
22 for increased local food production, that production has
23 remained slow to develop; and
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25 WHEREAS, Hawaii's residents need access to food in the
26 event of a natural disaster or interruption in the food supply
27 chain; and
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29 WHEREAS, the fragility of the State's food inventory leaves
30 Hawaii with only a three-to-seven day supply of food when
31 shipments from the mainland are delayed or cancelled; and



1 WHEREAS, a recent combination of bad weather and shipping
2 problems have resulted in empty shelves at several grocery
3 stores across the State, mere months after multiple storm
4 warnings resulted in similar shortages; and
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6 WHEREAS, title 7 United States Code, section 3103, defines
7 "sustainable agriculture" as an integrated system of plant and
8 animal production practices having a site-specific application
9 that will over the long term:
10

- 11 (1) Satisfy human food and fiber needs;
- 12
- 13 (2) Enhance environmental quality and the natural resource
14 base upon which the agricultural economy depends;
- 15
- 16 (3) Make the most efficient use of nonrenewable resources
17 and on-farm resources and integrates, where
18 appropriate, natural biological cycles and controls;
- 19
- 20 (4) Sustain the economic viability of farm operations; and
21
- 22 (5) Enhance the quality of life for farmers and society as
23 a whole; and
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25 WHEREAS, improving access to sustainable local foods will
26 not only benefit the State financially but will also benefit the
27 residents of Hawaii; now, therefore,
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29 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature
30 of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2019, that the
31 Department of Agriculture is requested to develop a Sustainable
32 Food Security Strategic Plan; and
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34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Agriculture
35 consult with the Department of Transportation, Hawaii Emergency
36 Management Agency, Office of Homeland Security, and interisland
37 cargo water carriers, in developing a Sustainable Food Security
38 Strategic Plan; and



1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the goals of the Sustainable
2 Food Security Strategic Plan are to:

- 3
4 (1) Increase efficient use of renewable resources to
5 develop Hawaii's food and farm sector;
6
7 (2) Increase sustainable local diversified agriculture for
8 local consumption;
9
10 (3) Increase the economic viability of local farm
11 operations;
12
13 (4) Improve access to local, sustainably produced foods;
14 and
15
16 (5) Improve biosecurity; and
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18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Agriculture
19 is requested to submit an annual report, containing its findings
20 and recommendations and any proposed legislation, to the
21 Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
22 each Regular Session starting in 2020 regarding its development
23 of a Sustainable Food Security Strategic Plan; and
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25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this
26 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Chairperson of the
27 Board of Agriculture, Director of Transportation, and Adjutant
28 General.
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OFFERED BY: 

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AC. Kirchman


